



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

11A

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/796,599

03/09/2004

Weishi Feng

MP0386

1797

26703 7590 03/16/2007
HARNESS, DICKY & PIERCE P.L.C.
5445 CORPORATE DRIVE
SUITE 200
TROY, MI 48098

EXAMINER

SAN JUAN, MARTINJERIKO P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2109

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
--	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

03/16/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/796,599

Applicant(s)

FENG, WEISHI

Examiner

Martin Jeriko P. San Juan

Art Unit

2109

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-77 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-77 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the following case application:

Non-provisional Application: 10/796599 filed on March 9, 2004.

Claims priority from Provisional Application: 60/485578 filed on July 8, 2003.

Claims priority from Provisional Application: 60/489361 filed on July 23, 2003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sims III [US PN 6550011 B1].

a. Based on independent claim 1, Sims III teaches an apparatus with a secure hard drive comprising a storage medium [Col 13, Ln 4] that stores encrypted digital content and corresponding encrypted content keys [Col 13, Ln 35]; a public key decryption module that receives one of said encrypted content

keys from said storage medium and that decrypts said encrypted content key using a private key and generates a content key [Col 11, Ln 50][Col 17, Ln 62]; and a block decryption module that receives said encrypted digital content corresponding to said one of said encrypted content keys from said storage medium and said content key from said public key decryption module and that decrypts said encrypted content using said content key [Col 11, Ln 50][Col 18, Ln 5].

b. With regard to dependent claim 2, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 1, where in said storage medium is a magnetic storage medium [Col 13, Ln 5][Magnetic, per se, is inherent within the scope of writeable media].

c. With regard to dependent claim 3, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 1, wherein said public key decryption module and said block decryption module are implemented by a system on chip (SOC) [Col 14, Ln 12].

d. With regard to dependent claim 4, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 1 further comprising a content player that receives said decrypted digital content from said block decryption module and that generates at least one of an analog output signal and a digital output signal [Col 6, Ln 52]; and an identification ID module that provides an ID, wherein said private key and a public key are based on said ID [Col 12, Ln 28][Col 12, Ln 42].

e. With regard to dependent claim 5, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 1 further comprising a controller that performs buffer management and timing of read/write operations [Col 13, Ln 5][Controllers performing buffer

management and timing of read/write operations are inherent in writeable storage devices.]

f. With regard to dependent claim 6, Sims III teaches a system comprising the secure hard drive of claim 5 and further comprising an external host [Col 20, Ln 8]; and a control interface that provides a communications interface between said controller and said external host [Col 20, Ln 48][A control interface is inherent to enable transfer of content as cited.]

g. With regard to dependent claim 7, Sims III teaches the system of claim 6, wherein said external host is one of a computer and a portable media player [Col 19, Ln 30][Col 20, Ln 8].

h. With regard to dependent claim 8, Sims III teaches the hard drive of claim 4 further comprising a watermark detector that communicates with an output of said content player and that determines whether said analog signal that is output by said content player contains a watermark [Col 15, Ln 15].

i. With regard to dependent claim 9, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 1, wherein said storage medium stores a content directory having content directory entries for said content [Col 19, Ln 6], [Col 13, Ln 22].

j. With regard to dependent claim 10, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 9, wherein said public key decryption module performs digital signature verification of said content directory entry corresponding to said content that is selected for play [Col 15, Ln 48][Col 17, Ln 25].

k. With regard to dependent claim 11, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 9 wherein at least one of said content directory entries contains a clear content counter that specifies a portion of said corresponding content that is not encrypted [Col 15, Ln 7].

l. With regard to dependent claim 12, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 9 wherein at least one of said content directory entries includes a content distributor identification (ID) field that identifies a content distributor supplying said corresponding content [Col 15, Ln 30].

m. With regard to dependent claim 13, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 9 wherein at least one of said content directory entries includes a content status field that has one of an active status and a passive status, wherein said active status enables playback and said inactive status disables playback [Col 15, Ln 5].

n. With regard to dependent claim 14, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 9 wherein at least one of said content directory entries includes a signature field for said content distributor supplying said corresponding content [Col 13, Ln 25].

o. With regard to dependent claim 15, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 9 wherein at least one of said content directory entries includes a content key location field that contains a first offset value that points to a content key for said selected content in a content key block stored on said storage

medium [Col 13, Ln 22][Pointers as offset values are inherent in these data sets cited for the purpose of pointing to a content key.]

p. With regard to dependent claim 16, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 9 where in at least one of said content directory entries includes a content location field that contains a second offset value that points to said selected content in a encrypted content block stored on said storage medium [Col 19, Ln 6][Pointers as offset values are inherent in a file system for the purpose of pointing to a selected content.]

q. With regard to dependent claim 17, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 1 wherein said content includes at least one of audio, video, and still pictures [Col 7, Ln 62].

r. With regard to dependent claim 18, Sims III teaches the system of claim 6 further comprising a distributed communications network [Col 9, Ln 13]; and a content distributor that transmits encrypted content, an encrypted content key, and a content directory entry for a content selection to said secure hard drive via said external host and said distributed communications network [Col 20, Ln 2][A content distributor is inherent in a "pay per view" system.]

s. With regard to dependent claim 19, Sims III teaches the secure hard drive of claim 1, wherein said storage medium contains encrypted content that is pre-stored thereon [Col 20, Ln 55].

t. Independent claim 20 is rejected using the same references as claims 1, 2, and 3.

Art Unit: 2109

- u. Dependent claim 21 is rejected using the same reference as claim 4 with the limitation regarding a content player that receives said decrypted digital content.
- v. Dependent claim 22 is rejected using the same reference as claim 4 with the limitation regarding an identification ID module that provides an ID.
- w. Dependent claim 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27 are rejected using the same reference as claim 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10 respectively.
- x. Dependent claim 28 is rejected using the same references as claims 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16.
- y. Dependent claim 29, and 30 are rejected using the same reference as claim 17, and 18 respectively.
- z. Claims 31-49 are rejected using the same references as claims 1-19. Claims 1-19 is the apparatus with all limitations having the necessary structure and components as disclosed in the specification for performing the function recited in all the limitations of claims 31-49.
- aa. Claims 50-60 are rejected using the same references as claims 20-30. Claims 20-30 is the apparatus with all limitations having the necessary structure and components as disclosed in the specification for performing the function recited in all the limitations of claims 50-60.
- bb. Claims 61-77 are rejected using the same references as claims 1-6, 8-17, and 19. Claims 1-6, 8-17, and 19 is the apparatus with all limitations performing the method of claims 61-77.

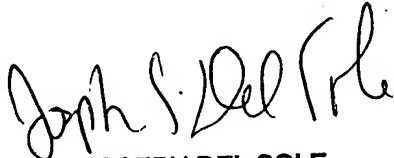
Art Unit: 2109

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Martin Jeriko P. San Juan whose telephone number is 571-272-7875. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30a - 5:00p EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Del Sole can be reached on 571-272-1130. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


JOSEPH DEL SOLE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
3/13/07